

REMEDATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR

April 14, 2004

GREENSPACE GRANTS ANNOUNCED!

DNR has awarded 11 grants totaling \$1 million to 10 Wisconsin communities to help clean up contaminated properties for public use. "Turning urban brownfields into parks, libraries and soccer fields is as critical to growing Wisconsin's economy as other factors," said DNR Secretary Scott Hassett. The Green Space and Public Facilities Grant Program is one of the first of its kind in the nation aimed at helping communities add public spaces and public buildings to urban areas through brownfields cleanup and reuse. The 11 local governments receiving grants have pledged over \$3 million in local investments for the project areas, and other private investment may lead to millions more in improvements. The grants will lead to the reuse of nearly 200 acres of property. The local governments receiving Wisconsin's first Greenspace and Public Facilities grants, including the scores for all the grant applications, are listed on the RR Program's web site at: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/greenspace_grant.htm. If you have questions about these grants, please contact Michael Prager, DNR, at (608) 261-4927 or at michael.prager@dnr.state.wi.us.

REGISTER BY FRIDAY FOR WEST CENTRAL REGION CONSULTANT DAYS

Friday is the deadline for registration for the West Central Region's four local Consultant Days, all of which are from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. The sessions will be: May 4 at the DNR Service Center in Eau Claire, 1300 West Clairemont Avenue; May 5 at the DNR Service Center in Baldwin, 890 Spruce Street; May 25 at the UW-Stevens Point University Center, room 207, 1015 Reserve Street; and May 26 at the DNR Service Center in La Crosse, 3550 Mormon Coulee Road. Agenda topics and registration materials are available at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/general/calendar.htm>. For additional information, please contact Mae Willkom at 715-839-3748, or mae.willkom@dnr.state.wi.us

WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB?

- BROWNFIELDS 2004 CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER

The Brownfields 2004 conference will be held in St. Louis, September 20-22. Information on the conference is available at <http://www.brownfields2004.org/en/index.aspx>. The deadline for submitting presentation ideas has been extended to April 17. The web site has more information about presentations, travel and lodging scholarships, conference highlights, and an electronic newsletter that will be sent periodically with conference-related updates.

- UPDATED PUBLICATION ON CONTAMINATION FROM OFF-SITE

"Off-Site Contamination – How Does It Affect My Property?" (RR-589) has been updated to more clearly help landowners, purchasers, municipalities and others understand the liability exemption for contamination that arises from an off-site source, i.e. another property. The publication is on the web at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR589.pdf>

- NORTHEAST REGION CONSULTANT DAY PRESENTATIONS

We have placed the PowerPoint presentations from Northeast Region's March 31 Consultant Day on the web. They are located at under the 4/3/04 item at:

http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/general/whats_new.htm

- RR PROGRAM POSTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We've developed a new "Accomplishments" web page to hold our new annual report, point to our site-specific success stories, and to illustrate some "quick facts" about the RR Program. We hope to add numeric accomplishments (e.g. numbers of case closures, redevelopment assistance actions) in the future. You can find our accomplishments information on our main web page, on the green sidebar under RR Basics. Check it out. <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/index.htm>

MERCURY THERMOMETER COLLECTION GRANTS

Communities and organizations interested in pursuing outreach for the collection and disposal of mercury thermometers can apply for grants to promote thermometer collection events. The goals of the effort are to reduce the public health risk posed by broken mercury thermometers in homes and schools, and to promote the Hospitals for a Healthy Environment goal of eliminating the use

of mercury in health care. Medical facilities, communities and organizations can apply for outreach grants to promote thermometer collection by submitting a reservation for funding by May 1, 2004. The thermometer collection event must be held before the end of June 2004. More information is on the web at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/medinf/grant.html>.

NEW DNR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT APPOINTED

DNR Secretary Scott Hassett has announced the appointment of attorney Mary Schlaefer as the agency's new executive assistant. Schlaefer will work with lawmakers, external interest groups, and Gov. Jim Doyle's staff on natural resources issues. Schlaefer replaces Elizabeth Kluesner, who left the agency in January. The full press release is on the web at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/news/on/#art2>

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